

**BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, November 27, 2023 – 11:30 am
McGreer 100, Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Position	P/R/A*	Attendance P/R/A
Sophia Stacey	President	P	6-0-0
Christine Lépine	VP, Academic Affairs	P	6-0-0
Olivia Woods	VP, Student Life	P	6-0-0
Brandon Leblanc	Director of Finance	Regrets	5-1-0
Bryn Empey	Director of Events	P	6-0-0
Taylor Morgan	General Councilor	P	5-0-0
Sasha Kardos-Machado	General Councilor	P – Electronic*	5-0-0
Roser Rise	First Year Rep	P	4-1-0
Sarah Jewett	On-Campus Rep	P	5-0-0
Chloé Rouleau	Environmental Sustainability Rep	P	5-1-0
Irma Susset	Equity Rep	P – Electronic*	6-0-0
Irmah Alao	Ethnic Diversity Rep	P – Electronic*	5-0-0
Marie Constance Hountondji	Health & Wellness Rep	P	4-1-1
Drew Henkel	Indigenous Student Rep	Regrets	5-1-0
Fiona Gaombalet	International Student Rep	P	5-0-0
Cleo Wulder	Business Senator	P	6-0-0
Martina Berkers	Education Senator	P	5-1-0
Elodie Lescure	Graduate Student Senator	P	5-1-0
Sonoma Brawley	Humanities Senator	P	5-1-0
Sienna Longo	Natural Sciences Senator	P	6-0-0
Chelsea Sheridan	Social Sciences Senator	P	6-0-0
Jordan Messier	Chair	Regrets	4-1-0
Erin Mallory	General Manager	P	6-0-0
Karen Dymond	Secretary General	P	6-0-0

*P=Present, R=sent their regrets, A=Absent

*As per Specific Bylaw 13.10.ii, electronic participation is noted in the minutes.

Observers / Guests: Virginia Rufina Marquez-Pacheco, Nicolas Baril, Renee Rosteius, Jenna Lemay, Rachel Ivay, Gabrielle Liu, Diane Drak Alsibai, Rianna Ostrosser, Morgan Doke, Muhammad Hussein, Mohammad Badahman, Raed Bayazed, Lack Linnell, Austin Mann, Kate Vandermuellen, Markayza Mitchell, Carlaine Faith Mboula, Salen Hassain, Omar Bujeir, * Some names have been omitted for safety reasons.

1.0 Opening

1.1 Welcome & Confirmation of Quorum

In the absence of the Chair, the President chaired the meeting.

Sophia called the meeting to order at 11:33 am and confirmed quorum with 16 voting members present at the beginning of the meeting. Three members participated electronically via TEAMS as indicated in the attendance list.

1.2 Land Acknowledgement – Taylor offered a Land Acknowledgement and a reflection on TRC Call to Action 11 on adequate funding for post-secondary education to eliminate the backlog of Indigenous students seeking post-secondary education.

1.3 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: Moved by Roser, seconded by Sarah, to move item 8.3 forward to after 4.2. WITHDRAWN.

MOTION: Moved by Irma, seconded by Roser, to move item 8.1 and 8.3 to after 4.2. CARRIED (16-0-0).

Marie Constance entered the meeting.

1.4 Approval of previous minutes – November 13, 2023

MOTION: Moved by Taylor, seconded by Fiona, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023, meeting as presented. CARRIED (17-0-0).

1.5 For the Good of the Board

Karen proposed an addition to the agenda to include an educational moment on governance to continue to enhance the BSR's skill set for governance. The BSR agreed to add this item to the agenda on a regular basis.

Karen clarified that when speaking to a main motion, all members have the opportunity to speak once before a member can speak a second time, and that members may only speak twice to a main motion. Exceptions are to answer a question directed to them or to make a secondary motion.

2.0 Filling vacancies on BSR

2.1 Environmental Sustainability Representative

Karen announced that a letter of resignation has been received from Chloé Rouleau, Environmental Sustainability Representative, effective December 9, 2023, as she is going to Australia on exchange next semester. Karen will issue call for applications to the student body this week and candidates will present themselves at the BSR meeting on December 8.

3.0 Departmental Updates

Written reports were circulated in advance with brief verbal highlights shared during the meeting.

3.1 President – Sophia announced that the threshold of 30,000 signatures was reached for the petition against the tuition increase for out-of-province students. The petition will be presented at the National Assembly tomorrow. Sophia and 4 members of the Tuition Increase Response Task Force will attend.

- 3.2 Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Christina thanked the senators for their work to make Student Success Week a permanent part of the Fall semester, which is being debated at Senate.
- 3.3 Vice-President of Student Life – Olivia reported on the development of a province-wide survey of student mental health and actions related to drink spiking happening in our community.
- 3.4 Director of Finance (Brandon) – Nothing to report.
- 3.5 Director of Events – Bryn highlighted the SRC holiday events.
- 3.6 Secretary General – Karen reported that End of Semester Reports are due by 5 pm on Monday December 4 and are required to receive the stipend for this semester. Reports will be circulated to all members in advance of the next BSR. An anonymous survey on approachability for each member of the executive team and permanent staff will be circulated.

4.0 Reports from Standing Committees / Recurring Items

4.1 Club Motions

In the absence of Brandon, Olivia spoke to all items in 4.1.

- 4.1.1 Ratification of CRABS – Classics and Religions at Bishop's Society
Olivia introduced Virginia Pacheco, who explained that their mandate is to promote the Humanities, the study of classics and religion at the university and beyond. Olivia pointed out the work that has been put into their documents.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Chloe, to ratify the Classics and Religions at Bishop's Society (CRABS). CARRIED (17-0-0).

4.2 Gaiter Grants Committee

In the absence of Brandon, Olivia spoke to the matters of the GGC.

- 4.2.1 Soccer Club
Requested \$1,415 - \$867 registration, \$468, jerseys, \$52 logo, \$70 letters on jerseys, \$180 referees. Olivia disclosed that the \$867 is a retroactive fee for player registration to Soccer Quebec. The GGC spoke with Athletics Department, who now manages SRC Extra teams and it is seen as in the best interest of the club to cover it.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Chloe, to move into closed session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to approve \$1415 for the soccer club. CARRIED (17-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Chelsea, to move back into open session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

Sophia clarified for guests the process and rationale for closed session and provided the outcome of the vote.

- 4.2.2 BU Snow
Requested \$535 BU Snow. Renee Rosteius was present and gave an explanation for the fees as well as the fundraisers they are hosting.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Roser, to move into closed session. (17-0-0). CARRIED.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Marie Constance, to approve the grant for the full amount requested of \$535 for BU Snow. CARRIED (17-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Taylor, seconded by Olivia, return to open session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

Guests returned to the meeting and the result was announced.

4.2.3 Dance Team

Olivia reported that the Dance Team requested \$8,000 and that the GGC is recommending funding for \$5200. Two members of the Dance Team spoke about their club, costs to members, and fundraising efforts.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Chelsea, to move into closed session. CARRIED (16-1-0).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Roser, to approve funding in the amount recommended by the GGC of \$5200 to the Dance Team. CARRIED (16-0-1).

MOTION: Moved by Sienna, seconded by Cleo, to move into open session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

Sophia announced the successful grant for the BU Dance Item.

Only items 4.1 and 4.2 were heard, with the remainder of Standing Committee reports not completed due to lack of time.

Item 8.1 and 8.3 was discussed immediately following item 4.1 and 4.2.

5.0 Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees

Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees were not given due to lack of time.

6.0 Question Period

Due to lack of time, question period was not held.

7.0 Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

8.0 New Business

8.1 BUSRC's Role in International Events

This item was addressed immediately after item 4.2.

Christina explained the motion that was brought forward at our meeting on November 13 regarding a statement on the Israel/Palestine conflict did not pass. She clarified that this item on the agenda is a broader discussion about how the SRC should react when there is a global conflict affecting students. A brief discussion was held with the following points raised: students need to be consulted before acting and how to do so, whether or not political statements should be made, our place in commenting on global conflict as a student association, addressing one side or one people group vs

neutrality, issues of safety and tension on campus, feedback from students from smaller countries with ongoing conflict who do not feel represented or recognized, and the role of the SRC.

- 8.2 Board Consultation - Ethnic Diversity Representative Name Change (Irmah) – due to lack of time, this item was postponed to the next meeting.
- 8.3 Proposed Statement in Response to Israel/Palestine Conflict (Irma)
This item was addressed immediately after item 8.1.

MOTION: Moved by Irma, seconded by Cleo, to issue the following statement:

In light of recent global events, we are deeply troubled and saddened by the tragic and ongoing loss of civilian lives in Palestine. The SRC stands for peace and safety. Your BUSRC is concerned about students' well-being and psychological health and is committed to providing support to students. We encourage students to access the following available resources and take care of themselves throughout the semester.

- + Mental health resources on campus.
- + Accredited educational resources on the topic
- + President, VP Student Life, Equity Representative and Ethnic Diversity Representative email addresses for questions, and concerns.

Irma spoke first to her motion and had Virginia Pacheco speak as her guest. The floor was then opened for discussion. Roser invited a student to present an alternative point of view. A long and extensive discussion followed for and against addressing one conflict and not others, neutrality, religious and cultural components, and what educational resources would be included. Also discussed was safety, the place of a student association in global conflict, and how to focus on student mental health and wellbeing.

MOTION: Moved by Irmah, seconded by Roser, to move into closed session. FAILED (3-12-1).

MOTION TO AMEND: Moved by Christina, seconded by Roser, to make the following amendments to the statement:

In light of recent global events, ~~we are deeply troubled and saddened by the tragic and ongoing loss of civilian lives in Palestine,~~ we affirm that the SRC stands for peace and safety. Your BUSRC is concerned about students' well-being and psychological health and is committed to providing support to students. We encourage students to access the following available resources and take care of themselves throughout the semester.

- + Mental health resources on campus.
- ~~+ Accredited educational resources on the topic.~~
- ~~+ President, VP Student Life, Equity Representative and Ethnic Diversity Representative email addresses for questions and concerns.~~

Martina left the meeting.

MOTION TIED (8-8-0). The chair voted to abstain due to conflict of interest, thus leaving the motion tied.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Roser, to move into closed session. **FAILED** (7-8-1).

MOTION: Moved by Christina, seconded by Roser, to strike a supplemental meeting of the board and postpone the vote on this item until that meeting. **CARRIED** (16-0-0).

The Secretary General will coordinate the supplementary meeting and inform the student body once a date is set. Members are to provide their schedule to the SG.

9.0 Toot Your Own Horn

None shared due to lack of time.

10.0 Date of Next Meeting – The supplementary meeting will be determined this week. The next regular meeting is December 8, 2023 – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in McGreer 100.

11.0 Adjournment

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting. **CARRIED** (16-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.